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INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 12065: GDS 12/17/87 (ANDREWS, NICHOLAS)

TAGS: PL, PINT

SUBJECT: POLISH SITREP NO. 12 AS OF 0500 DECEMBER 17

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE NUMBER OF STRIKE-BOUND PLANTS IS DIMINISHING GRADUALLY AS POLISH MILITARY AND POLICE UNITS, USING OVERWHELMING FORCE, HAVE CLEARED OUT STRIKING WORKERS. EARLY ON DECEMBER 16, ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE REPORT, POLISH FORCES OVERRAN THE LENIN SHIPYARDS IN GDANSK ENCOUNTERING ONLY PASSIVE RESISTANCE. FOREIGN MINISTER CZYREK TOLD AMBASSADOR MEEHAN THAT 55 ENTERPRISES ARE STILL ON STRIKE, GENERALLY SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZE. A WARSAW UNIVERSITY SOCIOLOGIST AND PARTY ACTIVIST TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT THE MARTIAL LAW MEASURE WAS A GREAT SUCCESS AND THAT THE PARTY DELIBERATELY KEPT A VERY LOW

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State Dept. review completed.

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PROFILE TO ALLOW THE ARMY, WHICH IS A-RELATIVELY- - POPULAR INSTITUTION IN POLISH EYES, A MORE PROMINENT ROLE.

3. ALTHOUGH IT IS DIFFICULT TO CITE ANY RELIABLE FIGURES FOR PERSONS KILLED AND WOUNDED DURING THE MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST THE STRIKERS, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT A FEW PERSONS MAY HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES AND SEVERAL DOZEN MAY HAVE BEEN INJURED.

4. THERE IS NO RELIABLE INFORMATION ON THE NUMBERS OF PERSONS DETAINED. ALTHOUGH MOST SOLIDARITY LEADERS HAVE BEEN DETAINED, A NUMBER OF THEM ARE STILL ACTIVE. A POLISH RADIO BROADCAST REPORTS THAT THE SLUPSK PROVINCE SOLIDARITY LEADER HAS APPEALED TO PEOPLE TO TRUST THE ARMY AND CALLED ON SOLIDARITY TO PURGE ITS RANKS OF THOSE WAGING "POLITICAL AND OPPOSITION ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE LEGAL ORDER." ANOTHER REPORT CLAIMS THAT THE POZNAN AREA SOLIDARITY LEADER WAS DETAINED, LATER RELEASED AND ABLE TO RESUME HIS SOLIDARITY FUNCTION AFTER TAKING AN OATH TO THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

5. POPE JOHN PAUL II CRITICIZED THPOLISH AUTHORITIES SAYING THAT "THE FORCE AND AUTHORITY OF POWER IS EXPRESSED IN DIALOGUE AND NOT THROUGH THE USE OF VIOLENCE." HIS STATEMENT CAME ON THE HEELS OF THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE COUNCIL OF POLISH BISHOPS WHICH REFERRED TO THE "NUMEROUS EXCESSES" OF THE MARTIAL LAW REGIME.

6. POLISH AIRLINES LOT PLANS TO FLY EIGHT CHARTER FLIGHTS DECEMBER 17 TO NEW YORK AND VARIOUS EUROPEAN DESTINATIONS TAKING POLISH OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND- FOREIGN CITIZENS OUT OF POLAND AND RETURNING WITH POLISH CITIZENS.

7. ASSISTANT SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER CALLED IN POLISH AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI ON DECEMBER 16 TO EXPRESS OUR DEEP CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN POLAND AND TO DELIVER A-- NOTE PLACING POLISH DIPLOMATIC, CONSULAR AND-TRADE

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PERSONNEL STATIONED IN THE UNITED STATES UNDER TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS SIMILAR TO THOSE IMPOSED ON USG PERSONNEL IN POLAND. EAGLEBURGER ALSO HANDED SPASOWSKI THE -- SENATE RESOLUTION PASSED ON DECEMBER 15 DEPLORING THE IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW AND CALLING INTO QUESTION THE SUITABILITY OF FURTHER USG ASSISTANCE TO POLAND, EXCEPT FOR HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS. EAGLEBURGER MADE THE POINT THAT FUTURE ASSISTANCE WILL DEPEND ON THE MODERATION SHOWN BY THE POLISH AUTHORITIES AT THIS TIME.

8. THE EMBASSY'S REQUEST TO THE POLISH FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR PERMISSION FOR AN EMBASSY OFFICER TO TRAVEL TO GDANSK WAS DENIED TODAY, JUST 48 HOURS AFTER IT WAS MADE.

9. POLICE AT ROADBLOCKS IN WARSAW ARE CHECKING IDENTIFICATION MORE ASSIDUOUSLY THAN BEFORE. YESTERDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME, EMBASSY TEAMS TOURING THE CITY PICKED UP CLOSE SURVEILLANCE BY CAR AND ON FOOT. THERE WERE EXTENSIVE MOVEMENTS OF MILITARY VEHICLES LAST NIGHT AND MANY STREETS WERE BLOCKED. BUT TODAY VERY FEW POLICE AND SOLDIERS ARE TO BE SEEN.

10. EMBASSY OFFICERS WILL BE IN VICTORY SQUARE AT 5 P.M. TODAY TO OBSERVE THE DEMONSTRATION TO CELEBRATE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT IN GDANSK TO THOSE WHO DIED IN THE 1970 STRIKE.

11. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. HAIG

END OF MESSAGE

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